

64. (currently amended) A device for filtering a fluid, comprising:

a filter having two [opposing] sides one of which is an input side for receiving the fluid to be filtered and the other of which is an output side for discharging the filtered fluid,

said sides having a space between them,

said device including a first portion that extends from one of said sides to the other of said sides in said space, ~~between said sides,~~

said device also having a second portion surrounding said first portion in [the] said space, ~~between said sides[,]~~

each said portion receiving and filtering only a separate part of the fluid to be filtered and including filtering material that filters fluid passing through such portion.

65. (currently amended) A device for filtering a fluid, comprising: ~~as defined in claim 64, in which:~~

a filter having two sides one of which is an input side for receiving the fluid to be filtered and the other of which is an output side for discharging the filtered fluid,

said sides having a space between them,

said device including a first portion that extends from one of said sides to the other of said sides in said space,

said device also having a second portion surrounding said first portion in said space,

each said portion including filtering material that filters fluid passing through such portion,

each said portion defining an input flow path starting from said input side and extending toward said output side,

each said portion defining an output flow path starting at said output side and extending toward said input side,

each portion having said filtering material located between its input and output paths for filtering the fluid passing from said input flow path to said output flow path, [.]

at least a portion of each of said input and output flow paths having a porous sidewall thereby allowing the fluid to pass through the porous sidewall of the input flow path through said filtering material and through the porous sidewall of said output fluid path.

66. (currently amended) A device for filtering fluids as defined in claim 64, in which said sides are parallel, said input side separating incoming fluid into said separate parts.

67. (previously presented) A device for filtering a fluid as defined in claim 64, in which:

said device having a third portion which surrounds both of said first and second portions in said space,

said third portion having filtering material that filters the fluid passing through said third portion.

68. (previously presented) A device for filtering a fluid as defined in claim 65, in which:

each said input flow path starting at said input side and passing most of the way toward said output side.

69. (previously presented) A device for filtering a fluid as defined in claim 68, in which each said input flow path is vertical.

70. (previously presented) A device for filtering a fluid as defined in claim 65, in which said output flow path extends most of the way from said output side to said input side.

71. (previously presented) A device for filtering a fluid as defined in claim 65, in which said sides are horizontal,

said input flow path extending most of the way from said input side to said output side and said output flow path extending most of the way from said output side to said input side.

72. (previously presented) A device as defined in claim 71, in which said input and output paths are vertical.

73. (currently amended) A system for filtering a liquid, comprising:

a reservoir for receiving the liquid to be filtered,

a filter including at least two filtering elements; each of which elements includes at least one liquid input path and one

liquid output path with said input path and said output path being spaced from each other,

said filter including filtering material in the said spaces between said input and output paths,

one of said elements surrounding the other element in at least one plane,

at least a portion of each of said liquid input path and of said liquid output path having a porous sidewall so that at least some of the fluid passes through said sidewalls,

said reservoir feeding liquid under pressure to said input paths.

74. (previously presented) A system for filtering a liquid as defined in claim 73, wherein said reservoir is located vertically above said filter and applies said pressure due to the force of gravity on the liquid; said input and output paths being vertical.

75. (previously presented) A system for filtering a liquid as defined in claim 73, wherein said reservoir is located vertically below said filter and applies said pressure due to the force of gravity on the liquid; said input and output paths being vertical.